Matthiessen & Hegeler Proposed Plan Comments October 5 – December 12, 2015

DATE	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL	
10/21/2015 #1		LaSalle, IL			
		COMMENT			
My name is leave before I could as		LaSalle, IL. I did attend the mee	ting at LP high school	last night, but had to	
The question I need answered right now is this regarding the produce that we grew this summer in our yard. I have a freezer full of tomatoes, peppers and carrots. I also have two tables full of produce that needs to ripen that I picked last weekend. Can we eat this food? Should I throw it all out? We grew all heirloom and organic food so we would not have to eat pesticides.					
I am deeply disturbed tyears ago.	hat we were notified at the las	st minute and even more disturbe	ed that no one told us th	hat our soil is not safe	
-		l tested. Our home is owned by now if our drinking water has been	•	. The home	
	ood or urine tests to see if we	east side of LaSalle for 20 years. have metals in our system? No			
I understand you are bu	ısy but I called and no one ha	s called me back. Thank you for	your time. My number	er is	
Sincerely yours,					

DATE	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL		
10/21/2015 #2		, La Salle, IL 61301				
COMMENT						

DEMAND FOR A FORMAL MEETING WITH ACTUAL NOTICE IN ADVANCE (ie DUE PROCESS)

No Physical Address provided at "Formal Meeting" October 20, 2015

I want my comments to be included with the formal record regarding the La Salle Superfund proposal. I am a resident-I own two homes in La Salle, own a business here, and my parents own two homes in La Salle. I have lived in La Salle for 30 of my 40 years on the earth, my parents have lived here for more than 45 years.

I was stunned and dismayed at the lack of due process afforded the citizens of La Salle with regard to your so called formal public meeting. First, during the "formal meeting", you admitted that the notices of said meeting were sent out so late that most people did not receive them. I was never mailed a notice. The deceased homeowner who used to own my home (he died in 2010) was on your mailing list, and thus, I received his copy on Tuesday, October 20, 2015, at 5:15pm when I went to my PO Box. The meeting was to commence 1 hour and 45 minutes later. Supposedly, a tiny mention ran in the newspaper but no one I spoke with who receives the local paper saw the notice, and nothing ran on local radio. I did not see one single member of the local press at the meeting, As an attorney, I assure you THIS IS NOT GOOD, DUE AND PROPER NOTICE. I would call this callous disregard for the concept of due notice.

Further, the "notice" I received so late was as misleading as anything I have ever seen. Were you in court, you would be sanctioned for the disparity of what you put in the notice as to what you actually stated at the meeting. The title "EPA Proposes Cleanup Plan At Former Zinc Smelter" does NOT convey that you are now considering "5000 residences in La Salle" a Superfund risk. As there are only 3900 residences in La Salle (there are only 3900 water meters, which is the most accurate count by the city), I am flummoxed as to how you got to 5000.

In any case, I was appalled to hear that this meeting, so poorly described and advertised, was to serve as our SOLE opportunity for comment on your plan. The very idea that a federal agency wants to commit this amount of funds with so little consideration is sickening. You stated that you have tested only 185 homes, and that 159 tested completely bengign. Thus, only 26 of those 185 homes had anything amiss. You stated that the single worst of the 26 "dirty" residences had 6 in 10,000 units measured of contamination where 1 in 10,000 units was considered benign. Yet you announced to a room of farmers and gardeners that you would not eat a tomato grown in La Salle's soil- that seemed to be a scare tactic that was inappropriate given the above results, particularly as you are an ADULT and the main risks associated with lead contamination are to growing children, not adults. You refused to tell us the areas that were tested, even just by boundary streets leaving the entire town to fester under a cloud of suspicion of inclusion until actual tests acquit us, residence by residence.

The only rational course of action is not at all what you propose in the order you propose it- you state that you are intending to test every home in La Salle, but only AFTER you decide a remedy for any contamination. That is ludicrous, "Ready, Fire, Aim," thinking that is the hallmark of poor governance. The obviously reasonable solution is to TEST ALL OUR RESIDENCES FIRST, THEN when you have ACTUAL DATA, it makes sense to discuss appropriate remedies. WE DO NOT WANT TO BE LIMITED IN OUR ABILITY TO ACHIEVE A RANGE OF REMEDIES ONCE WE KNOW THE ACTUAL LEVEL OF CONTAMINATION IN OUR INDIVIDUAL HOMES. We also do not benefit by having this problem blown out of proportion- as

you suggest that we have to make our situation seem as dire as possible to get access to federal funding before other superfund projects.

After proper testing is conducted, I forsee classes of citizens being created to address the most severe cases first, but at the same time, homes that test as not having any contamination need not be burdened with the blight of inclusion in a SUPERFUND order. The patterns of contamination will also become clear, likely giving you the additional data to best choose remedies once you see the levels of contamination from house to house, street to street.

I hereby make demand upon the EPA to provide an actual formal public meeting, with actual notice well in advance of the event (mailed no less than 14 days prior to the event). You should review your mailing list with the City officials to be sure you are sufficiently inclusive as this is vitally important. We do not need an "informal" event as all citizens deserve the opportunity to be heard on these issues after due contemplation.

Further, we should be given a copy of your presentation to keep on file at the library to review. Also, the materials you handed out should be revised to include the entire map of La Salle because to show just a few homes around the plant was misleading when you later state that your proposal covers 5000 homes. Your notice should be inclusive of all topics to be covered and the scope of any project to be undertaken.

I demand that you add me and my husband- separately- to your mailing list that each of us may have a copy to read- we were not able to read the docs prior to the meeting as we only had the one copy. My parents, who own three homes and a business in La Salle received NO notices, Only one person in my Rotary Club knew about the meeting and that is because he is the County Board liason for environmental reasons.

Also, you declined to respond to the man who asked what procedure we must follow if we wish to add on to our homes, and have occasion to dig on the premises. We deserve actual answers to our questions.

Thank you,

Attorney at Law

La Salle, IL 61301

La Salle, IL 61301

DATE	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL
10/21/2015 #3		LaSalle, IL		
		COMMENT		
Matthhiessen & Hege	eler Zinc Site-2nd email			
heard. I also want to home, I can have my For public record:	know if our soil has been previous mother in law,	email yesterday and I have not hously tested and what those results ontact you. aSalle were notified of the meeting.	are. If you need to ta	alk to the owner of the
2. I want to be adde	d to any and all mailing lists.			

DATE	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL		
10/22/2015 #4		LaSalle, IL				
	COMMENT					
Teresa Jones, I woul		olic meeting to gain more information of in LaSalle. Thank you in ad		y name is		

DATE	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL		
10/23/2015 #5						
COMMENT						

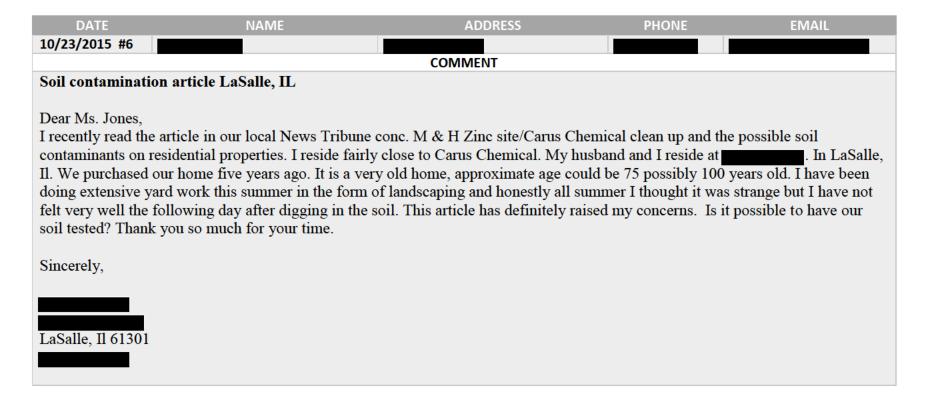
Matthiessen & Hegeler Zinc

Ms. Jones,

We did not receive the mailing concerning the above site until the day after the meeting at L-P High School. There are a few things my wife and I have questions about.

- 1. We live at ______. The aerial map does not show clearly the offsite residential areas affected. Is our residence included in OU2 Residential Area? If so, how does it concern us with health issues or property values?
- 2. None of the Alternatives shown meet the criterion for Reduction of Toxicity, Mobility, or Volume Through Treatment. Are there no other Alternatives available? Are they cost prohibitive? It says that the Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements are met. Reduction of Toxicity, Mobility, or Volume Through Treatment is not an ARAR?
- 3. The City of La Salle's main storm water overflow runs through the property. How will the clean-up affect this? Should the City wish to run future lines across this property how will the clean-up affect those lines?

These are the questions we had from first reading the pamphlet. There may be more after we examine it closer. We are grateful that something is to be done. It will serve the La Salle citizens and the surrounding wild life to have the site cleaned up.



DATE	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL	
11/01/2015 #7					
COMMENT					

Re: Matthiessen & Hegeler Zinc Presentation

Thank you for the materials.

La Salle's comprehensive plan states the site should be an interpretive park once it is remediated. My concern is that remediation will remove all cultural artifacts (structures, foundations, grades, etc.) that would be used to interpret the site. The removal of these would remove the opportunity for the City to develop a tourist draw as well as a monument to its heritage.

DATE	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL		
11/02/2015 #8						
COMMENT						

M&H Zinc LaSalle, Illinois

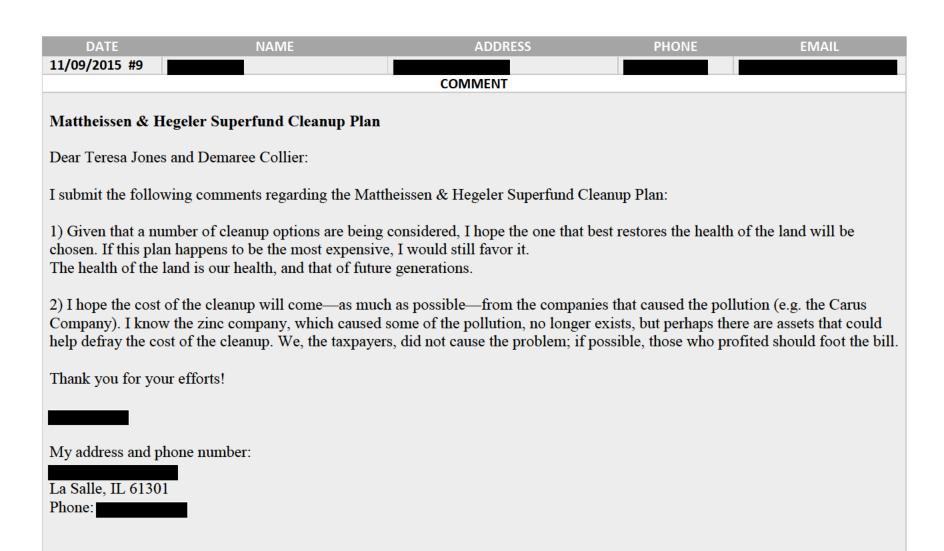
Good morning Teresa;

\$200 million cleanup proposal for property that wouldn't bring \$200 thousand if it was pristine. That's impossible to justify, especially when we were told there was no water contamination, and the property wasn't worth the expense, over a twenty year span.

Events such as these don't shed a very pretty light on the EPA or its' operations.

My proposal? Spend \$200 on milkweed seed and let the monarch butterflies have the place. Mother Nature has encapsulated the site for free, why disturb it?

(former LaSalle resident).



DATE	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL	
11/22/2015 #10					
COMMENT					

Matthiessen & hegler superfund

Hello. I was in attendance of the first meeting. I opened up the new pamphlet I received in the mail. I noticed a new page in the back which highlights locations where samples were taken. My house and my parents' house are near both of the sample locations. It's hard to tell if our homes were sampled or our neighbors. I will give you our addresses. Can you tell me if our homes were sampled and the results? If our homes were not sampled and it was in fact, our neighbors, can you tell us the results of those findings?

Thank you for your time.

Lasalle Illinois 61301

Lasalle Illinois 61301

DATE	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL	
12/3/2015 #11					
		COMMENT			
M&H cleanup site in	n LaSalle				
Teresa					
Two questions, comm	nents.				
	out sampling efforts east of the L				
_	between the quarrie's mining re		nd the construction of I-39	that whatever	
	ed prior, not much public exposu				
	onstraints appear to limit the spee				
-	k for monies from culpable partie				
Rolling Mills, but I understand the same family that ran both of those businesses is continuing to have warehouse and product shipment in and out of that site. I assume they are making profit or would not do this work. Is that money available for bearing part					
of the cleanup at this site? If not, why is this glaring problem not being addressed at cleanup sites?					
T	,) g				
Email:					

DATE	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL	
12/04/2015 #12					
COMMENT					

Lasalle homes

My husband and I have lived in Lasalle for 14 years. He is an avid gardner. In the past few years he has had eye problems that doctors believe may be cause of heavy metal poisoning. I would like my yard tested asap to find out if we have issues. Is there a home test we could use?

Thank you for your time

Concerned Lasalle resident with children who like to play outside

DATE	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL
12/08/2015 #13				
		COMMENT		
M&H meeting				
iepa will resolve test brought a new aware q&a portion of the n	group at our meeting. Frustrating questions and assimilation eness to the cleanup process. Moreoting and a specific date of the lany are on board to see resolutions.	of tested property's location Many would like to see a follone next awareness meeting. N	with specific locations. ow up in the local media low that there is concern	Health concerns have print and radio as to the from the EPA and iepa to

DATE	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL	
12/10/2015 #14					
		COMMENT			
M&H superfund					
We own the property at in LaSalle IL. We would like to see the soil tested not just for lead but for all the possibilities of contamination released by this company. and I also would like to see test results and be given a copy of the test results. Thank You,					

DATE	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL		
12/10/2015 #15						
COMMENT						

Comment Via FAX -

Cynthia Carus offered up the information that EPA or some office of government has been testing the grounds since 1970's. Why does it take so long for the EPA to do anything?

There are employees still alive that worked at Carus Chemical Plant that have stated they say Carus Chemical dump on the big slag pile a lot. Why do you wait till almost everyone is dead that could tell the truth before doing anything?

When you start testing properties and giving out the information, how long after the testing are you going to start yard cleanup?

When property values goes down, why do the people of LaSalle have to take the lost? Carus Family made millions running this plant at M&H.

From testing of yards till cleanup, how long are people of LaSalle going to be held hostage to their house? Who is going to buy a contaminated yard and house?

How do we get answers to our questions?

DATE	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL	
12/11/2015 #16					
COMMENT					

Hegeler carus cleanup

Hello just a thought that of course option one is required in the vicinity of the site Wonder if option two is actually needed in outlying areas or is overkill. I doubt if that much territory is contaminated. If the epa proceeds with option two and contamination does exist who pays for the replacement of the flower/exotic plants etc many of us fill our property with?

DATE	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL	
12/11/2015 #17	Paula Newton Legal Secretary	Ice Miller LLP 200 W. Madison Street Suite 3500 Chicago, IL 60606	312-726-2506	Paula.Newton@icemiller.com	

COMMENT

Carus Corporation's Comments on the EPA's Plan and Exhibits A & B

Per Tom Dimond's request, please see the attached.

Regards,

Paula Newton

Assistant to Tom Dimond

Comment in PDF format (87 pages): Letter to Teresa Jones, Carus Corp.'s Comments and Exhibits A & B-c.

DATE	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL	
12/12/2015 #18					
COMMENT					

Comment Via First Class Mail

As a buyer 2009 using a realtor and attorney, could they or should they have been aware of what was going on since 2007.

P.S. – On both sides this was an estate sale. All attorneys and realtors local.

DATE	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL	
12/12/2015 #19					
COMMENT					

Re: REMINDER: Matthiessen & Hegeler Zinc Proposed Plan Public Meeting - Dec. 3

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency c/o Teresa R. Jones EPA Region 5 (mail code SI-7J) 77 W. Jackson Blvd. Chicago, IL 60604

Re: Commentary on Proposed Plan, and an alternative Proposed Plan with regard to OU2, residential properties and other non-industrial parecls not otherwise listed specifically in another part of OU1 or OU2

To Ms. Jones and the EPA,

My husband and I have an ownership interest in three properties that would fall under your Proposed Soil Cleanup Plan of the Matthiessen & Hegeler Zinc Superfund Site. My parents have an ownership interest in at least two additional properties thusly impacted by said Proposed Plan. My father is a former city attorney of the City of La Salle, and we both serve on several City boards.

Not one citizen has come forward in support of the plan proposed by the EPA. I have spoken with upwards of 400 of my fellow citizens, including 7 aldermen, the City Attorney (James McPhedran), La Salle County State's Attorney (who is my neighbor), and I appeared on a radio call in show hosted by Rod Thorson on the issue of the Proposed Plan. Not one of the citizens of the City of La Salle is happy with the plan being proposed by the EPA for several reasons.

All of us believe that instead, we prefer my proposed plan, and ask that you adopt same and proceed to implement this plan via your Decision and Order.

We the citizens of La Salle want to have laboratory (not XRF) soil testing of each and every parcel of land in La Salle, and we want to have input into the methodologies employed in the testing. We want the testing to include arsenic, lead, cadmium. We want to have written laboratory results provided to each resident of the tested lot and (in cases where the parcel is non-owner occupied), same should also be provided to the owner(s) of the parcel.

We do not want any remedy beyond testing selected for us at this time because without testing, we do not possess sufficient information to make a good decision at this time (*the EPA has tested only 4% of plots, leaving 96% of us clueless as to

contamination levels). Once every parcel of land has been tested, we then want to discuss potential remedies with the EPA to jointly craft a cleanup plan that will minimize impact to our commerce, value of our land, and will consider the most cost-effective means to effectuate a well organized cleanup. We do not believe that the EPA has sufficient data to make good decisions, and we as citizens, without these test results, are essentially being denied due process because we cannot have meaningful input in a discussion of remedies until we know from the EPA the status of our parcels. We want the right to seek more significant remedies if necessary, but also do not want land within acceptable contamination guidelines to remain unsaleable pending testing which may be 20 years away if the EPA plan was followed.

The citizens of La Salle demand that once the testing phase is concluded, that those parcels with the greatest need for cleanup be addressed first. It may be fair to add in some scoring system whereby households testing with the highest lead concentrations and possessing children would take precedence.

We need to explore the consequences of the various cleanup methodologies upon our infrastructure- whether it can bear the heavy machinery, whether we should consider re-routing certain traffic areas, whether we can plan cleanups necessary at school sites in the months when children are out of school, and designate public park cleanup if necessary (like Hegeler Park) at a time when we can obtain an alternate place for the children to have PE (As two schools they do all their recess and sports functions at the park). The effect on our local banks which hold the paper on La Salle properties, whether people can dig in their yards without permission from the EPA to build a fence or add an addition, whether a person will be given certification as to having a decontaminated yard if they do not consent to dig up special trees and plantings- all these questions are unanswered. Some are unanswerable perhaps, but we deserve to have far more interaction and information from the EPA prior to any determination of what our remedies and rights will be in this process.

In short, the residential portion of the proposed plan needs to accommodate the needs of the people you seek to help. We believe that doing what I propose will save money, achieve better and faster results with far fewer unintended consequences. Best of all, if something goes amiss, you can blame us, as we requested you test first.

I understand that to the EPA people, La Salle is just another economically depressed City. My Father's parents, who both served in the Navy during WW2 with distinction, came here for peace and quiet after WW2 to build a life for their family. My Dad was born here, my siblings and I were born here. My family is buried here, as someday I will be.

I have moved around the country and traveled extensively, but I came here to make my home, and start my own business and raise a family. I love this place. You will only be here for a short while, but this is our home. We are long-term stakeholders here; the EPA is not. My neighbors and friends are my extended family. This is not a financially healthy city- we have most of our children qualifying for free breakfast and lunch programs, and many seniors whose only major asset is their home. Still, this is a city of a type that doesn't exist many places anymore. People slow down for yellow lights, wave to one another, and think nothing of digging a stranger's car out of a snow bank when it is 5 degrees outside. When someone from here is sick or hurt in an accident, we come together and give until it hurts without being asked. In the past several years, our citizens alone gave to the United Way an amount in excess of what was given by the citizens of Peoria, IL, a city many hundreds of times larger in population than La Salle because the people here are good, decent, and kind people. The actor Spencer Tracy lived here until he was six years old. Nat King

Cole sang in our nightclubs. A month before her tragic last flight, Amelia Earhart came here to speak in the same auditorium in which the EPA meeting was held. La Salle was the party spot of some of the most notorious gangsters of the roaring 20s, including Al Capone. James "Wild Bill" Hickock worked his first job off the farm during the construction of Lock 16 at the I & M Canal near First Street. This place is just another name, one more project to all of you, but to those of us who live here, this is a special place worth protecting and fighting for- we want you to care about this place, and us and what we think. We are grateful that the EPA wants to help us, but the wrong kind of help, at the wrong pace can be worse than no help at all. The simple changes I have proposed will conserve EPA dollars, and allow the EPA to create a far better cleanup plan, with more accurate planning. Better planning permits better execution. I beg that you please give us lab testing now, before selecting any other remedy. If you must, call the remedy further investigation, with future determination as to how, when, and where the soil cleanup will progress. We need to have a great deal of information to protect ourselves, and our City workers who are facing risks different than those of the average homeowner. As not one citizen favors the proposed plan, and all concerned have voiced support for my proposal, I ask that you adopt my plan with regard to the residential property portion of OU2. Thank you.

La Salle, IL 61301

Also concurring:

DATE	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL
12/12/2015 #20	Anthony C. Raccuglia &	1200 Maple Drive	815-223-0230	raccuglialaw2@comcast.net
	Associates, P.C.	Peru, Illinois 61354		
	Attorneys-at-Law	CONANAENIT		

COMMENT

City of LaSalle-Official Comment-Matthiessen and Hegeler Superfund Site and Related Matters

Comment in PDF format (4 pages): City of LaSalle-Ltr to USEPA

Anthony C. Raccuglia & Associates, P.C.

Attorneys-at-Law 1200 Maple Drive Peru, Illinois 61354 Phone: (815) 223-0230

Facsimile: (815) 223-0233

DATE	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL
12/12/2015 #21				
	<u> </u>	COMMENT		

Comment Via First Class Mail

I attended the meeting at the high school in LaSalle, IL and listened to the community express their concerns. Many brought the issue that we need to know how far the contamination goes, which yards areas are contaminated.

Our whole area is on hold, people can't sell houses consciously without knowing if contaminated. Other people wouldn't want to buy a house if they are facing contamination. It's putting a hold on the growth and economics or our community. From what I understood this is going to take 5-15 years for everyone involved.

I realize the areas OU1 and OU2 have been tested. Contamination has been accumulating there for 100 years. The community has lived with the contamination already. People, wildlife, plants, trees, soil garden produce everything we deal with everyday could already be contaminated. We as a community should be tested first to know what yards, areas and an idea of boundaries of the contamination and amount of contamination. Having this information would help us make decisions, ease our minds, help us realize what we have to face.

I don't want my yard to be destroyed, but if and when this happens. I don't want to be adding more plants or giving people contaminated produce. Your plan to sections, remove contamination, test another section remove contamination doesn't help people decide what to do. Waiting 5-15 years to know if your property is involved or when this will happen, it leave you feeling uneasy and unsure of what's going happen and when or if, whether you, your yard is contaminated.

So please test us firs so we know what we are dealing with. Find the boundaries of the residential contamination area, find out whose properties, yards and areas are effected then schedule the pattern or area of clean up, so people understand how, why and when this would happen.

Thank you,

The offer to test garden areas in the spring would be a great offer. Otherwise my gifts of produce, could be a gift of contamination.

DATE	NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	EMAIL	
12/12/2015 #22	Anonymous				
COMMENT					

Comment Via First Class Mail

EPA

Teresa Jones,

This is about the Carus Co. clean up in the LaSalle, Ill.

My family has 4 homes in said area for over 30 years. I believe as others Carus has had sail property for ages and made a fortune. LaSalle people are poor and does not need to have to pay for this company's problems. They have gotten the state to pay for the stupid Carus mansions bills and p keep and now they want more. They are so tight fisted they couldn't or wouldn't give a paperboy a xmas tip. This was my grandson so I know. It's too bad EPA can't make them solve their own problem.

An Elderly LaSallean

Dec. 11-15